

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please cancel claims 1-16, and 18-19.

Please amend claims 17 and 20 as follows:

17. (Amended) An injectable formulation, comprising:

- B1  
GHEB
- (a) particles comprising a biocompatible polymeric matrix, the matrix comprising a poly(lactide-co-glycolide);
  - (b) a biologically active polypeptide dispersed within the matrix; and
  - (c) an injection vehicle comprising hyaluronic acid.

B2  
GHEB

20. (Amended) A method for administering a biologically active agent, comprising:  
injecting the composition of claim 17 into a patient in need thereof through a 23-gauge or smaller needle.

Please add new claims 21-34 as follows:

21. An injectable formulation, comprising:

- B3  
GHEB
- (a) hyaluronic acid; and
  - (b) particles, comprising:
    - (i) a biologically active agent, and
    - (ii) a biocompatible polymeric matrix.

22. The injectable formulation of claim 21, wherein the concentration of hyaluronic acid is about 0.01 to about 0.8 percent weight per volume.

23. The injectable formulation of claim 21, wherein the hyaluronic acid is dissolved in physiological saline.

24. The injectable formulation of claim 21, wherein the polymeric matrix comprises a polymer selected from the group consisting of a biodegradable polymer, a non-biodegradable polymer, and a copolymer comprising biodegradable and non-biodegradable units.

25. The injectable formulation of claim 21, wherein the polymeric matrix comprises a polymer selected from the group consisting of blocked polymers and unblocked polymers.

B3  
cont.  
26. The injectable formulation of claim 21, wherein the polymeric matrix comprises a polymer selected from the group consisting of a poly(glycolide); a poly(lactide-co-glycolide); a poly(lactic acid); a poly(glycolic acid); a poly(lactic acid-co-glycolic acid); a polyanhydride; a polyorthoester; a polyetherester; a polycaprolactone; a polyesteramide; and a block copolymer of polyethylene glycol and lactide or glycolide.

27. The injectable formulation of claim 26, wherein the polymer is a poly(lactide-co-glycolide).

28. The injectable formulation of claim 21, wherein the biologically active agent is a polypeptide.

29. The injectable formulation of claim 28, wherein the polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of a growth hormone, a hepatocyte growth factor (HGF), a vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF), an anti-vascular endothelial growth factor Fab (anti-VEGF Fab), a glucagons-like peptide I (GLP-I), a nerve growth factor, and an insulin-like growth factor.

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30. The injectable formulation of claim 21, wherein the concentration of the polymeric matrix comprising the biologically active agent is about 1 mg/mL to about 500 mg/mL of formulation.